

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the most helpful discussion about the claims held on March 3, 2006.

Based on that conversation, the Applicants request the entry of the following amendments to the claims:

Claims 1-24 are being cancelled.

Claim 25 is amended to make it an independent claim. As such, formula (I) is being added to the claim; taken from Claim 1.

Claim 26 is amended to be dependent on Claim 25.

Claim 27 – no amendments.

Claim 28 is amended to indicate that the compounds of formula (I) are described in Claim 25, not Claim 1 which is being cancelled.

Claim 29 – no amendments.

Claims 30-39 are cancelled.

Claim 40 is amended to indicate that the compounds of formula (I) are described in Claim 25, not Claim 1 which is being cancelled.

Claims 41-46 are cancelled.

Although the Applicants request the cancellation of several claims, the Applicants make this request without prejudice to pursue the claims in a divisional application. The Applicants waive no rights to seek a patent on the subject matter of the cancelled claims.


No new matter is being introduced by these amendments. No fee is required.

The Applicants believe that all claims are in a condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner issue the pending claims. If the Examiner disagrees, the Applicants request the Examiner to contact the undersigned to discuss the claims with the goal of agreeing on allowable subject matter.

The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any other fee necessary to keep this application pending, from Deposit Account 19-0134.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-7922


David L. Marks
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,881

Date: March 3, 2006